

2 July 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Student Unrest at Saigon University

1. After talking to [] CA Staff, and [] FE Division, I met with Ralph Preston, Staff Assistant, House Appropriations Committee, in response to his earlier question concerning student unrest at the University of Saigon. In brief, I told Mr. Preston that it is the opinion of our people that the student unrest is motivated in large part by nationalist sentiment. There is some direct influence from the V. C. infrastructure and it has been alleged that some of Vice President Ky's people may also be involved to a limited extent. The major thrust is student objection to the war and aversion to being drafted. There is also objection to the American GI and the dating of Vietnamese girls. It is serious, but it has been cyclical in nature. Present government restraints appear moderate by comparison to the period when General Loen was Chief of Police in Saigon.

2. Mr. Preston was most appreciative and indicated that he needed assurance that this was not an area of Communist pressure against American forces in the field.

STATINTL

[]
Assistant Legislative Counsel

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